

# Chigasaki Breeze

Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.

No.0019

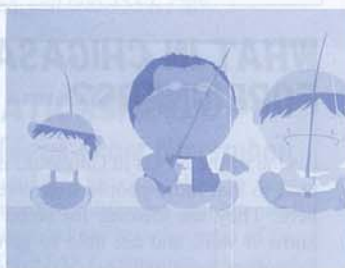
## Chigasaki Rainbow Festival November 16 at Satoyama Park



Following *FUREAI MATSURI* coming soon on November 3 at Chuo Park, there will be another festival held on November 16 (Sun) at Satoyama Park in Serizawa located north of the city center. *Satoyama* means the area where you will find a lot of greenery and natural assets even if it's not far from residential areas.

The festival site on a hill is fairly large and you can enjoy seeing various performances at the main stage, and walking around the market corner, open-air stalls, and flea market. There also are places called the Open Entrance Space and the Wind Terrace where you will find a kids corner, gardening and a food stuff purchasing corner, and so forth.

The *Satoyama Park* is located at the northern part of the city and they offer free buses for you to go back and forth from the bus terminal #1 in front of the Yokohama Bank building at the north gate of JR's Chigasaki Station or from JR's Kagawa Station. The city and the promoter invite you to visit the park and enjoy the nature of *Satoyama* with your family on this holiday under the climate of the bracing autumn wind and air.



If you go to Chigasaki Southern Beach going through the underpass of Route 134, these characters will welcome your visit.

## Chigasaki's Ecomuseum



The municipal government has been promoting a project to consider the whole city as a big museum without roofs and barriers, accommodating various kinds of assets of local culture, history, nature and other things to revitalize this community.

Now there are 67 registered assets around the city including the square stones in the *Sagamigawa* and *Rachien Dori* that we have discussed in the Chigasaki Breeze in the recent issues.

The city office started this project several years ago based on the policy of central government of educational reforms referring not only to school education but also to lifelong studies in view of an increasing number of elderly people. The project is planned to put their learning outcomes into practice. The city office will make use of a wide range of resources in the city such as cultural assets, historic spots, areas that are richly endowed with nature, industry, commerce, public facilities, human resources, etc. The city hopes the project will help make our town full of vitality and be able to live in harmony with nature.

There are courses in the form of lectures on studying cultural assets or nature with the view to becoming a guide. You may also find common friends while looking for new treasures. So why don't you join these projects.

## THE MORNING MARKET AT CHIGASAKI PARK AND BASEBALL STADIUM ON SATURDAY

From November onward, the morning market at the Chigasaki Park Baseball Stadium site is going to be held every Saturday from 8:00 thru 9:00, and there you can buy fresh vegetables supplied by farmers in Chigasaki at reasonable prices.

Also, there will be an event of "Thanks Day" once a month that the city will open in an attempt to promote the idea of "Consuming locally". (Agricultural Administration Section)



## Jichikai or Neighborhood Organizations

The population of Chigasaki city stands a little over 230,000, and there are 131 *Jichikai* or neighborhood organizations to voluntarily back up the city for delivering official publications, information, garbage collection fliers, etc. to each house through neighborhood reps or leaders. Those who are responsible for the delivery are also required to collect money for *Jichikai* fees as well as that for donation or volunteer activities such as those of the Red Cross. In a way, they represent self-governance of the people in the neighborhood consisting of about 92,000 families in the city.

These reps are elected every year or every two years, so they are expected to voluntarily work for such a length of time, covering 10 to 20 houses in their own neighborhood. The purpose of *Jichikai* activities is also in planning various events including disaster drills, a field day, etc. to solicit people to participate so as to keep up favorable relationships among people living closely. To maintain such *Jichikai* activities, you are required to pay fees as mentioned earlier. Activities planned by *Jichikai* may differ, however, depending on where you live.

Needless to say, not only Japanese residents but also foreign residents including newcomers are expected to join their *Jichikai* even though fewer numbers of foreign residents seem to be aware of the necessity.

There is a liaison conference of *Jichikai* operated by a number of citizens and they are working closely to make the residents feel at ease living and enjoy life in CHIGASAKI.

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